

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

A complete set of the existing claims is set forth below, with the amended claims showing deletions (strikethrough) and insertions (underline).

1. **(Currently Amended)** A method of managing a plurality of messages stored in a plurality of individual messaging accounts comprising the steps of:

a. accepting a user access request at a message access port to access selected ones of the plurality of individual messaging accounts, wherein the plurality of individual messaging accounts are determined based on information associated with the user;

and

b. transmitting a set of message access requests to a corresponding set of the individual messaging accounts.

2. **(Previously Amended)** The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

c. accepting a set of replies from the selected individual messaging accounts, wherein the set of replies comprises a report of messages pending on each of the selected individual messaging accounts;

d. creating a consolidated message list, including at least the messages pending in each of the selected individual messaging accounts; and

e. transmitting the consolidated message list as an output.

3. **(Previously Amended)** The method of claim 2 further comprising the steps of:

f. accepting a message process request to perform predetermined functions on the messages presented in the consolidated message list;

g. associating the message process request to the corresponding message presented in the consolidated message list; and

h. transmitting the message process request to the corresponding set of individual messaging accounts.

4. **(Original)** The method of claim 3 wherein the message access port comprises a networked proxy server.

5. **(Previously Amended)** The method of claim 3 wherein the individual messaging accounts have reassignable network addresses.

6. **(Original)** The method of claim 3 wherein the POP3 standard is utilized in at least one step.

7. **(Original)** The method of claim 3 wherein the consolidated message list comprises a list of e-mail messages.

8. **(Previously Amended)** The method of claim 7 further comprising performing predetermined service functions at the message access port.

9. **(Currently Amended)** A system for managing a plurality of messages stored in a plurality of individual messaging accounts, the system comprising:

a message port adapted to accept a user access request, wherein the user access request enables access to selected ones of the plurality of individual messaging accounts and wherein the plurality of individual messaging accounts are determined based on information associated with the user; and

a processor unit in communication with the message port, wherein the processor unit accesses messages stored in selected ones of the plurality of individual messaging accounts by communicating with the plurality of individual messaging accounts.

10. **(Previously Amended)** The system of claim 9 wherein the processor unit communicates a message access request to each of the individual messaging accounts and generates a report of messages that are pending on each of the selected individual messaging accounts.

11. **(Original)** The system of claim 9 wherein the messages comprise electronic mail.

12. **(Original)** The system of claim 9 wherein the message port comprises a networked proxy server.

13. **(Previously Amended)** The system of claim 9 wherein the processor unit accepts input from the individual messaging accounts and creates a consolidated message list that includes at least the messages pending on each of the plurality of individual messaging accounts.

14. **(Previously Amended)** The system of claim 13 wherein the processor unit accepts message process requests that perform predetermined functions on the messages presented in the pending message list.

15. **(Previously Amended)** The system of claim 14 wherein the message process requests comprise at least one of selecting messages, deleting messages and reading messages.

16. **(Original)** The system of claim 9 wherein the POP3 standard is utilized in at least one communication.

17. **(Previously Amended)** The system of claim 9, further comprising an administrative module in communication with the message access port, wherein the administrative module is adapted to perform predetermined service functions.

18. **(Currently Amended)** A system for managing a plurality of messages stored in a plurality of individual messaging accounts, the system comprising:

message port means for accepting a user access request as an input to enable access to selected ones of the plurality of individual messaging accounts, wherein the plurality of individual messaging accounts are determined based on information associated with the user;

processing means for communicating with the message port means, wherein the processing means accesses messages stored in selected ones of the plurality of individual messaging accounts by communicating with the plurality of individual messaging accounts.

19. **(Previously Amended)** The system of claim 18 wherein the processing means communicates a message access request to each of the individual messaging accounts and generates a report of messages that are pending on each of the selected individual messaging accounts.

20. **(Original)** The system of claim 18 wherein the messages comprise electronic email.

21. **(Original)** The system of claim 18 wherein the message port means comprises a networked proxy server.

22. **(Previously Amended)** The system of claim 18 wherein the processing means accepts input from the individual messaging accounts and creates a

consolidated message list that includes at least the messages pending on each of the plurality of individual messaging accounts.

23. **(Previously Amended)** The system of claim 22 wherein the processing means accepts message process requests that perform predetermined functions on the messages presented in the pending message list.

24. **(Previously Amended)** The system of claim 23 wherein the message process requests comprise at least one of selecting messages, deleting messages and reading messages.

25. **(Currently Amended)** A storage medium for storing computer readable code, the computer readable code being executable to manage a plurality of messages stored in a plurality of individual messaging accounts according to the steps of

a. accepting an input of a user access request at a message access port to access selected ones of the plurality of individual messaging accounts, wherein the plurality of individual messaging accounts are determined based on information associated with the user; and

b. transmitting a set of message access requests to a corresponding set of the individual messaging accounts.

26. **(Previously Amended)** The method of claim 25 further comprising the steps of:

c. accepting a set of replies from the selected individual messaging accounts, wherein the set of replies comprises a report of pending messages;

d. creating a consolidated message list, including at least the messages pending in each of the selected individual messaging accounts; and

e. transmitting the consolidated message list as an output.

27. **(Previously Amended)** The method of claim 26 further comprising the steps of:

- b<sub>1</sub>
- f. accepting a message process request;
  - g. associating the message process request to the corresponding message presented in the consolidated message list; and
  - h. transmitting the message process request to the corresponding set of individual messaging accounts.
-